

§ 20.133 Hunting regulations for crows.

(a) Crows may be taken, possessed, transported, exported, or imported, only in accordance with such laws or regulations as may be prescribed by a State pursuant to this section.

(b) Except in the State of Hawaii, where no crows shall be taken, States may by statute or regulation prescribe a hunting season for crows. Such State statutes or regulations may set forth the method of taking, the bag and possession limits, the dates and duration of the hunting season, and such other regulations as may be deemed appropriate, subject to the following limitations for each State:

(1) Crows shall not be hunted from aircraft;

(2) The hunting season or seasons on crows shall not exceed a total of 124 days during a calendar year;

(3) Hunting shall not be permitted during the peak crow nesting period within a State; and

(4) Crows may only be taken by firearms, bow and arrow, and falconry.

§ 20.134 Nontoxic shot.

(a) *Approval.* (1) The information collection requirements contained in § 20.134 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* and assigned clearance number 1018-0067. The information is being collected to provide a basis for which the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, can conduct a methodical and objective review to approve/disapprove nontoxic shot status sought by an applicant. The information will be used for toxicity assessment of candidate shot submitted for approval by applicant. Response is required to obtain a benefit.

(2) The Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, shall determine that a specific type of shot material is acceptable for the purposes of 50 CFR 20.21(j), if after a review of applications and supporting data submitted in accordance with this section, together with all other relevant evidence, including public comment, it is concluded that the spent shot material does not impose a significant danger to migratory birds and other wildlife or their habitats.

(b) *Application and review—Tiered strategy for approval of nontoxic shot and shot coating.* (1) All applications for approval under this section must be submitted with supporting documentation to the Director in accordance with the following procedures and must include at a minimum the supporting materials and information covered by Tier 1 in the tiered approval system as follows:

(2) *Tier 1.* (i)(A) Applicant provides statements of use, chemical characterization, production variability, volume of use of candidate material and shot sample as listed in paragraphs (b)(2)(i)(A)(1) through (5), (b)(2)(i)(B)(1) through (5), and (b)(2)(i)(C)(1) through (3) of this section. The candidate shot or shot coating may be chemically analyzed by the Service or an independent laboratory to compare the results with the applicant's descriptions of shot composition and composition variability. Rejection of the application will occur if it is incomplete or if the composition of the candidate material, upon analysis, varies significantly from that described by the applicant.

(1) Statement of proposed use, *i.e.*, purpose and types.

(2) Description of the chemical composition of the intact material.

(i) Chemical names, Chemical Abstracts Service numbers (if available), and structures.

(ii) Chemical characterization for organics and organometallics for coating and core [e.g., empirical formula, melting point, molecular weight, solubility, specific gravity, partition coefficients, hydrolysis half-life, leaching rate (in water and soil), degradation half-life, vapor pressure, stability and other relevant characteristics].

(iii) Composition and weight of shot material.

(iv) Thickness, quantity (e.g., mg/shot), and chemical composition of shot coating.

(3) Statement of the expected variability of shot during production.

(4) Estimate of yearly volume of candidate shot and/or coated shot expected for use in hunting migratory birds in the U.S.

(5) Five pounds of the candidate shot and/or coated shot, as applicable, in